



Number 3, 2005

Dear Compatriot:

A BUSY SEPTEMBER

You have already received an invitation to our fall meeting at the Clark Cooke House on Monday, 19 September. Luncheon will be served at 12:15 PM and will follow a champagne reception at 11:00 AM at the home of Walter Whitley, Past President, John Peck Rathbun Chapter.

On Saturday, 17 September, we will be honoring Solomon Southwick of Newport at his gravesite in the Common Burial Ground on Farewell Street, Newport. This ceremony will take place at 11:00 AM. Solomon Southwick is the Revolutionary War ancestor of David Marsh of upstate New York and he and other members of his family will be joining us for the ceremony. Southwick was the Commissary General of Rhode Island and publisher of the Newport Mercury. The Varnum Continentals will be assisting in the affair. We would like to have a good turnout of RISSAR Compatriots so please call Michael Northup (401-439-4099) or Carlen Booth (401-439-8549) and let us know you will be in attendance.

That very same day, 17 September, we are also participating in a Boy Scout Camporee in Uxbridge, Massachusetts just north of Woonsocket. The theme of this camporee is the American Heritage Merit Badge, the same merit badge program that we sponsored at the W3R encampment at Fort Adams in July. This is an all day event and we definitely need some help particularly with our First Vice President Daniel O'Connell currently serving with his National Guard unit in New Orleans. If you would like to participate, please call Carlen Booth (401-438-8549).

Sunday, 18 September is the DAR's Patriotic Sunday in the Park. This annual event will be held at Daggett House, Slater Park, Pawtucket and will honor National Guard troops serving in Iraq and at other posts as well as service members recuperating in military hospitals. The event is from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. There will be band music, JROTC

Drill Team demonstrations and sales tables for ice cream sundaes and baked goods. Proceeds will be forwarded to the RI Military Family Relief Fund and to Operation Support Our Troops.

WASHINGTON – ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE (W3R)

The 2005 part of Rhode Island 's W3R activities was held on the weekend of July 8-10 in Newport and was quite successful. RISSAR representatives laid a wreath at the Rochambeau Monument at Kings Park in Newport as part of the commemoration of General Rochambeau's landing which played a key role in the eventual defeat of the British at Yorktown. There were parades of militia and re-enactment units and a grand encampment at Fort Adams. Daniel O'Connell ran an American Heritage Merit Badge program as part of the Fort Adams festivities.

RISSAR hosted a highly successful dinner for members of the French Society of the Sons of the American Revolution on Thursday evening the 7th of July. This dinner was held at the Clambake Club in Middletown and was replete with French and American flags and table decorations, a very fine dinner and numerous toasts to French and American heroes of the Revolution.

On tap for 2006 is the re-enactment of the beginning of the march of French and American troops from Newport that eventually culminated in the Battle of Yorktown many months later.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PLAN

Your Board of Managers approved a new life membership plan at its meeting in July. The key features of the plan are that you would become a life member of both the National and the State Societies, the amount required to become a life member will be set aside in a separate fund and invested and the amount required has been set at a level such that its investment will provide sufficient income to meet future dues requirements. An individual at age 40 or less choosing to join the plan would pay \$1350 (\$750 – National and \$600 – State). The National plan decreases \$12.50 each year so that at age 70, a payment of \$375 would be required and the State plan decreases in blocks of time so that a payment of \$400 would be necessary at age 70. If you have any questions or any interest in participating in this plan, please contact your Secretary, John W. Adams (401-886-9078).

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENTS

We are still working on the Rhode Island Society's website although we were slowed somewhat during the summer months. There should something up and running by later in the fall.

CALENDAR

In addition to the September activities mentioned on the first page of this newsletter please note the following:

Board of Managers – Saturday, October 8, 2005 at 8:30 AM at Evelyn's Villa, 272 Cowesett Avenue, West Warwick, RI

John Peck Rathbun Chapter – Thursday, October 20, 2005 at 6:00 PM, Varnum Armory

Memorial Service – jointly with DAR at the Veterans Cemetery, Exeter, RI, Friday, November 11, 2005.

Veterans Day Luncheon – Friday, November 11, 2005 at the Larchwood Inn, Wakefield, RI following the service at the Cemetery.

Christmas Party – Friday, December 9, 2005 at the Shriner's Imperial Room, Cranston, RI

Anyone wishing to contribute material to the Independent Man should contact either Carlen Booth, or John Adams.

Thank you for your support.

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